

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4039

INFO /AMEMBASSY ANKARA 5692

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

DIA WASH DC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATECUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

US

OCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS NICOSIA 2146

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJ: FURTHER REACTION TO ECEVIT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: NICOSIA 2130 (DTG 281030Z JUL 76)

1. ECEVIT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT HAS CONTINUED TO BE A MAJOR STORY IN JULY 29 GREFF AND TURK CYPRIOT PRESS. TURKISH PAPERJA FOCUSED ON STATEMENT OF A TFSC SPOKESMAN THAT TURKISH COMMUNITY WAS ANXIOUSLY AWAITING TO SEE WHETHER MAKARIOS WOULD DENOUNCE THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AND THAT "MANY THINGS WOULD BE ASSESSED IHE LIGHT OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT LEADERSHIP'S

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REACTION." NOTING THAT ASSAILANT WAS A LEADER IN GREEK CYPRIOT

ORGANIZATIONS IN CANADA AND U.S.A., SPOKESMAN SAID THAT GREECE AND GREEK CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INCIDENT.

2. GREEK CYPRIOT EDITORIAL REACTION RANGED FROM REASONABLE TO RIDICULOUS. PHILELEFTHEROS, WHICH USUALLY REFLECTS MAKARIOS' VIEWS, NOTED THAT IT OPPOSES "INDIVIDUAL TERRORISM" AND THAT SUCH ACTIONS ARE "ALIEN TO OUR PEOPLE." KILLING OF ECEVIT, PAPER CONTINUED, WOULD ONLY HAVE "PROVIDED AN EXCUSE TO TURKISH CHAUVINISM TO RESPOND TO RETALIATION." COMMUNIST HARAVGHI ALLEGED THAT THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WAS CLEARLY "STAGE MANAGED BY THE CENTERS OF THE SATANIC INTERNATIONAL SYNDICATE OF CIA." LYSSARIDES' TA NEA PEDDLED SAME LINE AND SPECULATED THAT POSSIBLE MOTIVE BEHIND "STAGE MANAGED" ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WOULD BE TO SHOW GREEK AMERICANS AS CRIMINALS AND MURDERERS AND THUS NEUTRALIZE THEIR INFLUENCE. EVEN PRO-CLERIDES' AGHON COMMENTED THAT CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE ATTEMPT TOOK PLACE WERE STRANGE AND STRENGTHENED IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS STAGE MANAGED IN ORDER TO HARM THE GREEK SIDE.

3. COMMENT: HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE.
DILLERY

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